

Statement of Significance
Pauline Johnson School
1150 22nd Street
West Vancouver, BC
June 2008



Historic Place

The historic place is the Pauline Johnson School at 1150 22nd Street, a brick-clad building that was the first large school in West Vancouver. Built in 1922, it was designed by local architect Hugh Hodgson. White stucco wings have been added at both the north and south ends. The school's grounds, which form a part of the historic place, extend from 22nd Street to 21st Street and from Gordon to Jefferson Avenues. The school is named after Pauline Johnson, a Mohawk poet and writer who lived and died in Vancouver.

Heritage Value

The Pauline Johnson School has both architectural and historical value. Its architectural value derives from being representative of larger school buildings erected in the Lower Mainland in the 1920s, and for being a work of noted local architect Hugh Hodgson. It has both modern and traditional tendencies – modern in its clear expression of its structure and the large expanses of windows; traditional for its references to the Tudor Revival style, a popular style for domestic architecture.

The school has historical value as the first large school building in West Vancouver. It is also valued by the many generations of students and teachers who studied and worked there. The steps and entrance doors for 'Boys' and 'Girls' at either end of the original building provide a tangible link to the past for present-day schoolchildren, who can sit on the same steps that their parents and grandparents may have sat upon as children.

Character-defining Elements

The character-defining elements of the Pauline Johnson School include:

- The central (brick) portion of the west façade
- The brickwork and stone trim on the façade
- The large expanse of windows
- The features of the Tudor Revival Style, including the shaped gables over the entrances, the depressed pointed arches and the carved stone quatrefoils over the doors
- The central stone panels inscribed 'Pauline Johnson School' and the date of construction (1922)
- The stone-and-concrete sets of stairs

